

Message Text

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FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5880

AEC GERMANTOWN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 4446

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: IAEA, PARM, IT, SP, SW

SUBJECT: SPANISH VIEW OF ITALIAN CANDIDACY FOR IAEA BG SEAT AS

A "MOST ADVANCED" STATE

REF: MADRID 3348 (NOTAL)

1. VELO STATEMENT THAT IAEA SECRETARIAT HAS ITSELF BEEN SELECTING NINE "MOST ADVANCED" MEMBERS OF INCOMING BOARD (PARA 2 REFTTEL) IS NOT ACCURATE. AS VELO CORRECTLY OBSERVES DESIGNATION PROCESS IS FUNCTION OF BOARD, NOT SECRETARIAT. PRACTICE IN EFFECT FOR YEARS HAS BEEN FOR CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD (NOT RPT NOT AN AGENCY OFFICIAL) TO HOLD INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH BOARD MEMBERS PRIOR TO JUNE MEETING. MISSION WOULD NOT KNOW HOW MANY OF WHICH MEMBERS ARE CONSULTED BUT SINCE ENTIRE BOARD MUST LATER CONSIDER SUBJECT VIEWS SOLICITED BY CHAIRMAN MUST REPRESENT WHAT CAN BE CALLED A CONSENSUS, THOUGH NOT NECESSARILY A UNANIMOUS VERDICT.

2. AT JUNE BOARD MEETING, IT IS CUSTOMARY FOR CHAIRMAN TO INFORM BOARD THAT AS A RESULT OF THESE CONSULTATIONS, HE UNDERSTANDS BOARD WISHES TO DESIGNATE NINE MEMBERS OF
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NEW BOARD IN ACCORDANCE ART. VI A.1 FOLLOWING WHICH NINE

STATES ARE NAMED BY CHAIRMAN. BOARD HAS ALWAYS FORMALLY APPROVED DESIGNATION OF THESE STATES. IN RECENT YEARS, SEVERAL GOVERNORS, INCLUDING THOSE FROM SWEDEN, FINLAND AND MEXICO, HAVE STATED FOR THE RECORD AT BOARD THAT THEIR VIEWS WERE NOT SOUGHT AND THAT STATUTE DID NOT PROVIDE FOR PERMANENT SEAT FOR ANY MEMBER. NOTWITHSTANDING THESE REMARKS, WHICH WERE DULY NOTED, BOARD HAS SUPPORTED CHAIRMAN BY CONSENSUS.

3. FUNCTION OF SECRETARIAT THROUGHOUT THIS PROCEDURE HAS BEEN LIMITED TO ROUTINE ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES AND WE ARE CONFIDENT WILL EXCEED THESE BOUNDARIES ONLY OVER DEAD BODIES OF 34 GOVERNORS. LEAHY

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